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Rais-Media

MAKE CAREFUL ANALYSIS OF NEWS ITEMS BEFORE REACTING - RAIS YATIM

JASIN, Oct 23 (Bernama) -- Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim has advised leaders at all levels to make careful analysis of any news item particularly that from the western media before reacting to them.

To deal with the foreign media agenda, leaders particularly those at the higher level should wisely analyse these news items and only then make the appropriate reaction, he said.

He said the media would tend to distort speeches and events and then seek reaction from the leaders who should be wise enough to analyse their reports before responding to them.

Speaking to reporters after a meet-the-people session at Dewan Simpang Bekoh here last night, Dr Rais said the foreign media would continue to implement their agenda by belittling the country's leadership even after Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had stepped down.

"We do not know what the (foreign) media will do. However we can see there is a special agenda in both the electronic and the print media."

He said the western media promptly and speedily reported events which favoured one side.

"I think they will continue to do this, like in the past, but what to degree, we do not know," he added.

Deputy Information Minister Datuk Zainuddin Maidin said yesterday that the media had reported that the Prime Minister had been rebuked by US President George Bush and that he had violated protocol by pulling aside Dr Mahathir for the rebuke.

When in fact no such thing took place and the US President had only expressed regret and apologised to the Prime Minister in Bangkok for his earlier harsh words against Dr Mahathir.

The Prime Minister himself had denied that President Bush had rebuked him, Datuk Zainuddin said.

All this emanated from news reports which were bent on belittling and humiliating Dr Mahathir, he added.

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NO NO AAM